

HOUSE BILL 1267

By Womick

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 1, relative to academic standards.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 3, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a) Notwithstanding chapter 1 of this title, each local school board shall adopt academic standards for students in mathematics, science, geography, history, reading/language arts, and writing. The state board of education shall develop and provide a baseline set of standards for these subjects no later than thirteen (13) months before the expected implementation. The state board shall require each local school board to meet with family and community stakeholders to discuss accepting or enriching the academic standards and to ensure that the standards created shall meet the needs of all students within the school district. Each local school board shall submit to the department the final draft of standards as approved by family and community stakeholders no later than four (4) months before the expected implementation.

(b) The authority to adopt local standards shall permit a local school board, pursuant to subsection (a), to select academic standards that are inferior or superior to the academic standards recommended by the state board of education pursuant to chapter 1 of this title. If a district rejects or accepts the standards recommended by the state board, then the local school board shall continue to receive state and federal funding to provide for the implementation of the academic standards recommended by the state board.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring
it.